



**Holy Masses**



**Saturday Vigil**

5pm Hanmer Springs  
(Every Saturday)

7pm Culverden  
(Every Saturdays)

**Sunday Mass**

8.30am Amberley  
(Every Sunday)

11am Cheviot  
(1st & 3rd Sundays Only)

10.30am Hawarden  
(2nd & 4th Sunday Only)

The Beatitudes, Leithfield  
**11am - Every Sunday**

**Weekday Masses**

Amberley  
Mon - Fri: 8:30am

The Beatitudes, Leithfield  
**Mon & Thurs: 6pm**  
Other week-days: 12pm



**Adoration & Reconciliation**

**Amberley**

1st Friday of the month  
from 7:30am

Confession by Appointment  
or before Mass



**Amberley Church Hall**

**Rosary**

Wednesday 1:30pm

**Kalavale**

Parish's cup of tea & raffles  
1st Sunday of the Month.

**St Joseph Men's Group**

2nd & 4th Monday 7pm-9pm

Here in New Zealand, we know the beauty of hills, green paddocks, and sheep across the land. Because of this, today's Gospel speaks close to our hearts. Jesus says, **"I am the gate for the sheep... I came that they may have life."** Jesus is not only the Shepherd of the hills—He is also the **Shepherd of our hearts.**

Today let us remember three simple lessons: **KNOW, KEEP, KNOCK.**

**1. KNOW His Voice**

A sheep knows the voice of its shepherd. In the same way, we must know the voice of Jesus. Many voices compete for our attention today—social media, fear, anger, greed, and pressure from the world. These voices confuse us.

But the voice of Jesus brings peace, truth, and hope.

We hear His voice through prayer, the Bible, Sunday Mass, and the teachings of the Church. The Catechism reminds us that prayer lifts our hearts to God (CCC 2559).

Before listening to the noise of the world, listen first to the Shepherd.

**2. KEEP Close to Him**

Sheep are safest when near the shepherd. When they wander, they become weak and lost.

Many people today feel lost—lost in stress, loneliness, sin, family troubles, or worries about the future. But Jesus never stops caring for His flock. He searches for the lost and welcomes them back.

Maybe you feel far from God today. Come back. Return to prayer. Return to Mass. Return to trust.

Saint Augustine once said, **"Our hearts are restless until they rest in You."**

Stay close to Jesus. Close sheep are safe sheep.

**3. KNOCK on His Gate**

Jesus says, **"I am the gate."** A gate is where we enter safety, rest, and life. Jesus is the open door to mercy, healing, and new beginnings.

If your heart is tired, knock.

If your soul is burdened, knock.

If your life feels empty, knock.

Jesus never closes the door to anyone who comes sincerely.

He offers not just survival, but abundant life—life with meaning, peace, and eternal hope.

**Conclusion**

Dear friends, the hills of New Zealand remind us of today's Gospel, but the deeper message is for our hearts.

So remember: **KNOW** His voice, **KEEP** close to Him, **KNOCK** on His gate.

And the Good Shepherd will always lead you home. Amen.

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:14,36-41**

God has made him both Lord and Christ

**Psalm 22(23)**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:20-25**

You have come back to the shepherd of your souls

**John 10:1-10**

I am the gate of the sheepfold

**HYMNS for SUNDAY MASSES**

*(May vary on the day)*

**282:** Sing to the Mountains

**609:** In bread we bring you

**806** The Lord is my shepherd

Good Shepherd lead us home

**1. Why is the Feast of the Good Shepherd important for our parish?**

**Answer:**

It reminds us that Jesus Christ is the true Shepherd of the Church, who knows, loves, and guides His people. For the Parish of the Good Shepherd in Hurunui, it is a celebration of identity—we are not a lost or forgotten community, but a flock personally cared for by Christ. It strengthens our trust that He walks with us in both rural life and daily struggles.

**2. What does it mean for parishioners to be “shepherded” by Christ?**

**Answer:**

To be shepherded by Christ means allowing Him to guide our decisions, values, and relationships. Practically, it means listening to His voice through Scripture, prayer, and the Church. It also means recognising that even in moments of confusion or hardship, we are not alone—Christ leads us toward peace and truth.

**3. How should this feast affect unity in our parish community?**

**Answer:**

The Good Shepherd gathers His sheep into one flock. This calls the parish to unity, not division. Practically, it means welcoming newcomers, supporting families in need, and working together in ministries. A united parish reflects Christ’s voice more clearly to the wider Hurunui community.

**4. What practical responsibility do parishioners have as members of Christ’s flock?**

**Answer:**

Each parishioner is called not only to be guided but also to participate in the mission of the Church. This includes attending Mass faithfully, serving in parish ministries, caring for the vulnerable, and living as witnesses of faith in everyday life—at home, work, school, and in the wider community.

**5. How can this feast inspire the future of the Parish of the Good Shepherd Hurunui?**

**Answer:**

It challenges the parish to become more missionary and welcoming. The future depends on active faith—young people growing in leadership, families strengthening prayer life, and all members reaching out like Christ the Good Shepherd. In this way, the parish becomes not only a place of worship but a living sign of God’s care in Hurunui.

NOTICES

**Sacrament of CONFIRMATION & Parish Feast Day - Sunday 26th April - Hawarden.**

The celebration will begin with a **Holy Mass at 10:30am**, to be presided over by **Bishop Michael Gielen**. During the Mass, we will also witness the beautiful celebration of the **Sacrament of Confirmation for 22 young people**.

After the Mass, everyone is invited to stay and enjoy a **Parish Picnic**.

- 1) There will be only one Mass on this day. [There is no 08:30 Amberley Mass].
- 2) Please bring your own picnic cutlery and a plate to share.
- 3) transport from Amberley- for those needing transport from Amberley to Hawarden, please wait at the front of the church before 09:45. Those with spare seats please come by and give a lift to any who need a ride.
- 4) Confirmation day raffle: please bring your cash to purchase your tickets at the raffle immediately after the Confirmation Mass- there are 10 prizes to be won.

Let us come together as one family in faith to celebrate this joyful occasion. We look forward to seeing you all!  
God bless.

Fr. Rex

**St Joseph Amberley men's group meets in the hall Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 7pm.**

**From the workshop-** words on St Joseph- Fr Calloway's book Page 41

On this Good Shepherd Sunday when we pray for vocations, let us reflect on St Joseph’s vocation as head of the Holy Family. “Jesus and Mary not only bent their wills to Joseph’s for he was head of the Holy Family, but lovingly surrendered their hearts to him as well”